

R.A.F.T.S. Prompts for grades K-4

Kindergarten Prompt:

Close your eyes and see the playground at your school . Draw a picture, name your favorite piece of equipment on the playground, and write up to three sentences describing the equipment and why it is your favorite. You may put yourself and other children in the picture. Oral prompts might include: Who else is with you and what do you hear as you play? What color is it and how does it feel when you touch it and play on it? Why is it so much fun?

First Grade Prompt:

Write a letter to your parents persuading them to let you have a favorite pet. Name and describe the pet and explain what you would do to help take care of the pet. We are looking for 4-5 sentences with this response.

Second Grade Prompt:

Write a persuasive letter to a second grader who might move to your town or community. In two paragraphs, describe your classroom and then give three reasons why the child should enroll in your second-grade class and school. Oral prompts might include: what do you learn in second grade that is important for children to know?

Third Grade Prompt:

Think of a time that you really enjoyed spending with a good friend. What was it about the time that has created a good memory for you? Write a narrative letter telling the story to your grandparents describing all the wonderful things you did. Start at the beginning of the special time you spent with your friend describing in order what happened. Tell about the events, the places, other people, and the feelings you experienced. Conclude with a comment about why this friend so special to you.

Length: 3 paragraphs

OR

The mayor of Great Falls recently made the following statement: "It always strikes me as a terrible shame to see young people spending so much time staring at television. If we could unplug all the TV sets in America, our children would grow up to be healthier, better educated, and more independent human beings." The *Great Falls Tribune* wants to print the four best student responses to the mayor's statement. Write a persuasive paper explaining why you think it is (or is not) a good idea to turn off all the TVs. Give specific reasons why you think that way.

Fourth grade prompt:

You have been learning in school about how people can be healthier. The doctors in your community are writing a book about things children can do to be healthy. They want suggestions from students about what people should and should not do to keep their bodies healthy. Write an informative letter to a doctor at your local clinic explaining what you think you should do to stay healthy.

OR

Your newspaper is offering a prize for the "Best Relative of the Year". Think about which one of your relatives should win this prize. This relative could be a parent, grandparent, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, or cousin. Think about the reasons your relative could win the prize and why he or she is the best. How will you persuade the judges to give your relative the award for the year? Write a persuasive letter to the paper with three reasons why your relative is qualified to be the winner. Use facts, quotes of what the relative says, descriptions of what the relative does, and how the relative makes you feel.

Length: 4 paragraphs